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RECENT LITERATURE.

The second and concluding part of J. Roth's *Allgemeine und Chemische Geologie*¹ completes the valuable set of volumes the first two of which have proven such a boon to chemical and petrographical geologists. That portion of the volume before us has been edited by the author's daughter, who has attempted to present the subject matter contained in it as nearly as possible in the form in which it would have appeared had her father lived to complete his work. The title of the book describes the nature of its contents. The discussion relating to the weathering of rocks comprises 59 pages, on many of which are found analyses that serve to illustrate the subject. Seventy-two pages are devoted to the decomposition of rocks through the influence of volcanic and other examinations from beneath the surface of the crust and thirty-two pages deal with rock distintegration consequent upon temperature changes, the action of organisms, and the effects of wind and water. Three appendices to the three volumes follow, and to each there is added an excellent index. The brochure just issued, like all the others that have come from the pen of its author, is a masterly and thorough treatment of the subject of which it treats. It is a fitting capstone to the excellent monument which the authors reared to himself during the concluding years of his life. It is so replete with interesting information that it must prove a necessity to every student of rocks. W. S. B.

Our Household Insects.²—Under the title Mr. Edward A. Butler has written a book which is decidedly better as regards accuracy coherence and scientific value than the usual popular works on entomology. Eighteen chapters are utilized to discuss a great variety of household insects—many of which in America at least could only rarely be viewed in the light of “pests”: the list includes wood boring, club-horn and long-horn beetles, meal-worms, ants, wasps, horn-tails, clothes moths and meal moths, crickets and ear-wigs, flies of many kinds including gnats, midges and mosquitoes, the flea and bed-bug, the book-louse and “silver-fish” and lastly human *Pediculi*. Besides a consider-

¹ *Allgemeine Geologie*, von Justus Roth. 2te Abt. Verwitterung, Zersetzung und Zerstörung der Gesteine. Nachträge. Berlin. W. Hertz., 1893. Pp. 211–530 and ix.

² *Our Household Insects: An Account of the insect pests found in dwelling-houses.* By Edward A. Butler, Longmans, Green, and Co.

able number of fair illustrations in the text, there are seven page-plates showing photographic enlargement of various insects.

Horns and Hoofs³.—This octavo volume of 411 pages is a reissue in a collective form of articles which have appeared from time to time in the *Field* and *Land and Water*. The animals come under the designation of "big game," and include the wild oxen, sheep and goats, the Asiatic and African antelopes, the Asiatic and South American deer, the wild pigs, and the rhinoceroses, ancient and modern. In some of

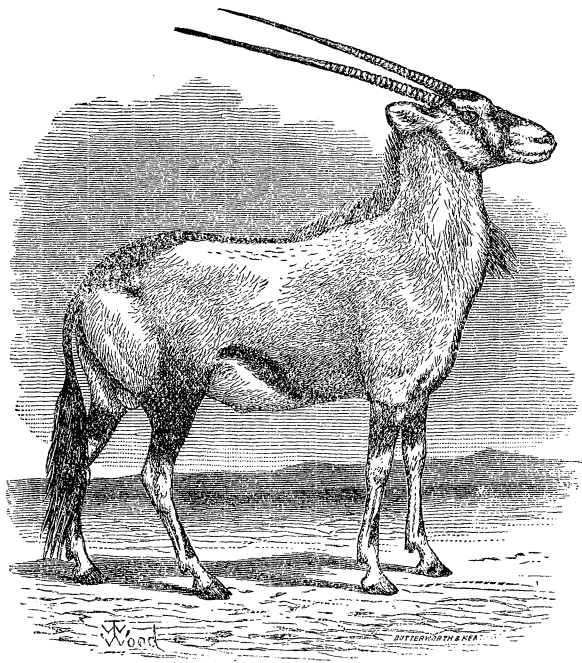


Fig. 1. *Oryx gazella*, the gemsbok of Africa.

the chapters all the members of particular groups are discussed, in other cases, while the geographical distribution of all given, the author limits the full description to the more important members. The relations existing between the different groups and the past distribution of each particular group are treated of more at length than is customary in the majority of sporting works. In fact the book rises much above the general level of this class, as it could not fail to do as the work of Dr. Lydekker, who is one of the most competent of modern zoologists.

³ Horns and Hoofs or Chapters on Hoofed Animals. By R. Lydekker. Horace Cox; The Field Office, Windor House. London, 1893.